Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
6/23/76

Ms. Carol Randolph
Nine in the Morning
WTOP-TV
41 & Brandywine Sts.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Carol-to-be-Portia,

Before the rave that follows I must admit - no, proclaim - partiality for your guest of the 30th, Howard Roffman, author of Presumed Guilty. It is a great work!

Can a competitor say more? About Howard personally, yes. And taking advantage of my years, a few secrets.

When I first met Howard and I was old enough to be his grandfather and he was young enough to phone news of his safe arrival to his folks the minute he reached here. Our relationship grew to where I was sort of a second father. It has continued to grow as he has - and how he has!!- until we are now like brothers. He grows fast!

His publisher may not tell you but Howard wrote his book that today is so topical when he was in high school! He edited and cut in summers. Now he's burning up law school, after an almost 4 point undergraduate average at Penn. He's now executive editor of the University of Florida Law Review.

He is truly an exceptional young man in every way. Brilliant, modest, as you will see soft-spoken and as decent, principled and moral a young man as I know - or expect to.

But don't be deceived by the mildness of his appearance. Inside he is as tough as pursuit of principle requires. As a Penn freshman he made a fool of the politicking Dist District Attorney of Philadelphia, Arlen P Specter. Specter had been a major Warren Commission lawyer, the one most responsible for the avoidance and misrepresentation of the most basic evidence in a homicide, the medical evidence.

Recently Specter ran for the Republican nomination for Senator from Pennsylvania. He was invited to debate Howard at the Princeton Institute of Advanced Studies, the Einstein place. Specter was afraid. He absolutely refused. For all his political and prosecutorial experience, for all his knowledge from his Warren Commission work, he was too yellow to face this young man at so prestigeous an institution of learning and the most learned.

Today's Senate report makes Howard's work more topical and more foresighted. If you caught Hart he said they did not look into the conclusions of the Warren Commission at all. Howard's title says it: everyone presumes guilt, nobody investigates it and fact remains a stranger to those who don't read books like Howard's. He does not conjecture, one of the few of us who do not. He presents fact, carefully and aptly focused and interestingly and very readably put together.

If I speak of one who is like my son/brother you will, I am certain, learn for yourself that I speak the truth without exaggeration. He is that great.

Hope law school is going well.

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg